

Remarks

This communication is in response to the Restriction Requirement mailed September 30, 2005, and an interview conducted between Bridget Hayden, and Examiner Siek on December 29, 2005.

Interview Summary

An interview was conducted on December 29, 2005 regarding the restriction requirement of September 30, 2005. In the restriction requirement, the Examiner indicated that the communication was responsive to the paper filed August 10, 2005, and claims 20-38 were listed as pending. However, the paper filed August 10, 2005, was a non-compliant preliminary amendment. Applicants subsequently filed a compliant preliminary amendment on September 15, 2005, with new claims 20-28. Currently pending claims 20-28 are not the same as claims 20-38 from the paper filed on August 10, 2005. Therefore, the Restriction Requirement sent on September 30, 2005, required restriction of claims that are not currently pending.

Examiner Siek indicated over the phone that currently pending claims 20-28 would require a restriction. He indicated that claims 20-27 are considered Group I, and claim 28 is considered Group II.

Examiner Siek also indicated during the phone conversation that a communication responsive to the phone conversation, and not the restriction requirement of September 30, 2005, would be acceptable, and that either Group I or Group II identified during the interview would be examined.

Response to Restriction

The Examiner required restriction of either Group I (claims 20-27) or Group II (claim 28) on December 29, 2005.

Applicant elects Group I, Claims 20-27, drawn to manufacturing integrated circuits having a wafer that lacks a metal one layer, for further examination without traverse. Claim 28 is withdrawn from consideration.

In view of the above, Applicant respectfully submits that the present application is in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the present application and a favorable response are respectfully requested.

A check for a two month extension fee in the amount of \$450.00 is included herewith. If additional payment is needed, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge our Deposit Account No. 04-1420 and notify us of the same.

Respectfully submitted,

DORSEY & WHITNEY LLP
Customer Number 25763

Date: December 29, 2005

By: 
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